

## Color Rondo

Danai D. Apostolidou-Gagné

The musical score is for 'Color Rondo' and consists of eight staves. The top staff is for Soprano, with two circled first endings labeled '1.' and '2.'. Below the vocal line is the lyrics: 'They stretch, they leap and weave in and out. They pose, they twist and turn round a-bout.' The instrumental parts include Alto Glockenspiel, Soprano Xylophone, Alto Metallophone, Finger Cymbals, Bass Xylophone, Contrabass Xylophone, and Timpani. The score is in common time (C) and includes dynamic markings such as *p* (piano) and accents (>).

**Begin with the poem:**

They stretch, they leap and weave in and out.  
They pose, they twist and turn round about.  
Dancing colors move through space,  
Blending into shapes with ease and grace.

- Invite your class to move to the action words in the poem: stretch, leap, weave, pose, twist, turn, dance, blend.
- Divide class in two groups, A and B.
- The A group moves to teacher's cuing of each word: stretch, leap, weave, blend.
- The B group moves to teacher's cuing of each word: pose, twist, turn, dance.
- Group A moves to their designated words, accompanies their motions with vocal sounds, and then they freeze.
- Group B does the same, and then they freeze.

5  
S  
Danc - ing co - lours move through space, ——— blend - ing in - to shapes with ease and grace.

5  
AG

8  
SX

8  
AM

5  
F. Cym.

8  
BX

CBX

Timp.

*p*

### Perform the rondo:

- A Sing the verse in unison or in canon accompanied by layered ostinati.
- B Two students improvise in movement while holding solid color fabrics two and a-half to three yards long. Instrument players improvise as the movers dance with the fabric.
- A Sing the verse.
- C Five or six students interpret a poem about a specific color as two of them (or all) move with the fabric.
- A Sing the verse.
- D Improvise in movement with fabric as in B.
- Final A While the A section is sung, movers form a quilt with six to eight strips of fabric, each held by two people on either end, standing in a parallel line horizontally from the audience's view. The same number of fabrics, one at a time, will weave vertically through the horizontal fabric strips. The person in front weaves while the other stays at the end, and, voila! The quilt is formed. (Watch the quilt being formed at Danaï's website, <[www.danaigagne.com](http://www.danaigagne.com)>.)